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13. (Amended) The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 7, wherein the ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer (B) contains (i) ethylene in an amount of 60 to 80 % by weight, (ii) an  $\alpha$ -olefin of 3 or more carbon atoms in an amount of 18 to 34 % by weight, and (iii) a higher  $\alpha$ -olefin of 4 to 20 carbon atoms in an amount of 0.5 to 20 % by weight.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to delete improper multiple dependencies.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited..

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The viscosity modifier for lubricating oil as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the  $\alpha$ -olefin of 3 or more carbon atoms (ii) is propylene.

5. (Amended) The viscosity modifier for lubricating oil as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein the carbon number of the higher  $\alpha$ -olefin (iii) is in the range of 6 to 20.

6. (Amended) The viscosity modifier for lubricating oil as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein the ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer (B) contains (i) ethylene in an amount of 60 to 80 % by weight, (ii) an  $\alpha$ -olefin of 3 or more carbon atoms in an amount of 18 to 34 % by weight, and (iii) a higher  $\alpha$ -olefin of 4 to 20 carbon atoms in an amount of 0.5 to 20 % by weight.

10. (Amended) The lubricating oil composition as claimed in [any one of claims 7 to 9] claim 7, wherein the ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer (B) has the property (b-4):

(b-4) a melting point ( $T_m$ ) as measured by DSC is 60°C or lower.

11. (Amended) The lubricating oil composition as claimed in [any one of claims 7 to 10] claim 7, wherein the  $\alpha$ -olefin of 3 or more carbon atoms (ii) is propylene.

12. (Amended) The lubricating oil composition as claimed in [any one of claims 7 to 11] claim 7, wherein the higher  $\alpha$ -olefin (iii) has 6 to 20 carbon atoms.

13. (Amended) The lubricating oil composition as claimed in [any one of claims 7 to 12] claim 7, wherein the ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer (B) contains (i) ethylene in an amount of 60 to 80 % by weight, (ii) an  $\alpha$ -olefin of 3 or more carbon atoms in an amount of 18 to 34 % by weight, and (iii) a higher  $\alpha$ -olefin of 4 to 20 carbon atoms in an amount of 0.5 to 20 % by weight.